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Information Review & Release (IRR) News for 25 - 29 November 2002
Executive Summary

Immediate Calendar:

(U//~~AIUO~~) 11 December 2002: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Liaisons' meeting at Crystal City.

Future Planning Calendar:

(U//~~AIUO~~) 17 December 2002: Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP): Next Principals' meeting at the EEOB in Washington, DC.

(U//~~AIUO~~) 30-31 January 2003: Historical Review Panel: Next meeting at [redacted] (b)(3)

(U//~~AIUO~~) April 2003: The Automatic Declassification Date per Executive Order 12958, as amended, for unreviewed intelligence-related or multi-agency records.

Overview of IRR Activities Last Week:

(U//~~AIUO~~) Litigation

(U//~~AIUO~~) CIA Sued by Members of "Coalition Missing"
(U//~~AIUO~~) Seven members of "Coalition Missing," through their attorney Mark Zaid, filed suit recently against the CIA and four other federal agencies in the District Court of the District of Columbia. The plaintiffs are asking for the release of US Government information under the FOIA and the Privacy Act regarding alleged atrocities in Guatemala against the plaintiffs and/or their immediate family members. "Coalition Missing" is described in the complaint as, "... a human rights advocacy group of US citizen survivors of state-sponsored and political violence in Guatemala, which was founded in 1993." [redacted] (b)(3)

(U//~~AIUO~~) FOIA Requests

(U//~~AIUO~~) Prison Prohibits Inmate's Receipt of CIA FOIA Material
(U//~~AIUO~~) A frequent FOIA requester, who is an inmate in a Colorado prison, was prohibited by a prison mail screening board from receiving a document that he had requested from CIA under the FOIA. The prison's "Offender Reading Committee" stated the document, titled *Human Resource Exploitation Training Manual* , was "a potential threat to stability ... of the offender population." The Committee gave the requester ten days, and CIA 30 days, to appeal the prison's decision.

- *The* Human Resource Exploitation Training Manual *was written in 1983 and released in redacted form in 1994. The 124-page manual discusses interrogation techniques, including, according to the introduction, "reactions to pain and fear, the effects of debility and isolation, and hypnosis and narcosis."*

[redacted] (b)(3) (b)(5)

(U//~~AIUO~~) CIA Declassification Center

(U//~~AIUO~~) From the Archives: Rare Kudos from Blowtorch Bob
(U//~~AIUO~~) In a January 1967 note to DCI Richard Helms that was recently reviewed at the CIA Declassification Center, Robert Komer, of the National Security Counsel, stated, "If all other civilian agencies only had the CIA's flexibility, energy, and focus on the main chance, we would be much farther along toward a satisfactory solution in Vietnam." Mr. Komer was describing the CIA's year-end report for 1966, which he called "an impressive document."

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- *According to an article written at the time of his death, Mr. Komer was sent to Vietnam in 1967 by LBJ as General Westmoreland's deputy for "civil operations and revolutionary development support (CORDS)." Robert Komer was nicknamed "Blowtorch Bob" by Henry Cabot Lodge, Ambassador to South Vietnam, because he said "arguing with Komer was like having a flamethrower aimed at the seat of one's pants." LBJ rewarded Mr. Komer for his work in Vietnam by appointing him ambassador to Turkey in 1967. Robert Komer died in 2000 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.* [redacted] (b)(3)

(U//~~AIUO~~) From the Archives: DCI Exchange With a Young Kennedy in 1961

(U//~~AIUO~~) The DCI team at the CIA Declassification Center came across a rather interesting exchange of letters dated 1961 between DCI Allen Dulles and Edward Kennedy, the future Senator of Massachusetts, but who at that time was the 29-year old younger brother of the President. The first letter, dated 3 February, was from Kennedy to the DCI, "I certainly appreciate very much your kindness and consideration in taking time out of your busy schedule to see me Tuesday afternoon.... The conversation we had was most helpful as far as resolving in my own mind some of my plans for the future.... My immediate plans are to return to Boston and practice law." He added he hoped to "renew our acquaintance on the tennis courts at Palm Beach." Mr. Dulles replied on 10 February 1961, "Having practiced law myself for upward of 20 years, in between government assignments, I know how useful the training is, even if one looks forward later to different lines of work." [redacted] (b)(3)

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This is a record.

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CC:

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